

Amendments to the claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of metallic materials, especially for the consolidation of the texture of metallic materials, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a blank of a metallic material,
- b) heating said blank to a transformation temperature and
- c) deforming said blank by twisting said blank about a longitudinal axis thereof and, at the same time, compressing said blank in the direction of said longitudinal axis.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein during said compression ~~step is performed by~~ subjecting said blank is subjected to a constant force.

4. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said compression step is performed by subjecting said blank to a constant deformation speed.

5. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said blank is heated over its full length for the consolidation of the texture thereof.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein only the area of said blank is heated where the deformation is to be performed.

7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said blank is heated by electrical induction heating.

8. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the deformation of said blank is performed at a temperature of about 1000°C.

9. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the deformation of said blank is performed at least partially under a protective gas cover.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said metallic material is titanium aluminide having a texture obtained by heating a blank of a said metallic material and deforming the blank by twisting under compression.

11. (currently amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the titanium aluminide has the composition  
Ti - 47 Al - ~~4.7~~ 3.7 (Nb, Cr, Mn, Si) - 0.5 B.